

10/ 574 176

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Applicant: Petra Perner  
Serial No: not yet known (National Stage of PCT/DE04/02229)  
International Filing Date: 10/1/2004  
For: Methods for Automatically Identifying Microorganisms  
Collected on a Carrier

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

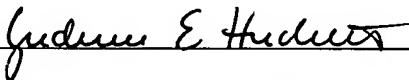
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the reference(s) cited on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents (except U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications) are attached.

These references (or their equivalents) have been cited in the International Search Report of the international patent application of which the instant application is a national stage filing. A copy of the international search report showing the relevance of the references as seen by the European Patent Office acting as international searching authority is attached.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted March 28, 2006,



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GEH/Enclosures: [x] PTO 1449 [x] reference(s) [X] search report [ ] fee

PTO 1449		Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>  <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	
		Filing Date	4/2/2006 <b>10/574176</b>
		First Named Inventor	Petra Perner
		Group Art Unit	
Date submitted: 3/28/06		Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 1		Attorney Docket No.	DE0402229

U. S. PATENTS OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
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	2	5,663,057	9/2/1997	Drocourt et al.	435	40.5	6/21/1995
	3	5,891,394	4/6/1999	Drocourt et al.	422	50	6/6/1997
	4	5,162,990	11/10/1992	Odeyale et al.	364	413.1	6/15/1990

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes No
	5	2 254 414	10/7/1992	United Kingdom			X

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title of Article, Title of Item (Book, Journal, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume or Issue No., Publisher, City and/or Country Where Published

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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